

IN THE SPECIFICATION

1. On page 9, line 9 of the specification as filed, please insert the following text in its entirety:

-- 4. In accordance with a fourth aspect of the present invention, a method for use in a communications network is disclosed. In one embodiment, a processing machine establishes communications between at least first and second user machines, the first user machine being coupled to the processing machine over a first communication medium, and the processing machine being coupled to the second user machine over a second communication medium, and the method comprises: causing signals to be sent to the first and second user machines to enable media type selections, at least one of the media type selections including a selection of at least two different media types; and transmitting via the processing machine a plurality of digital media packets corresponding to the at least two different media types, the digital media packets being transmitted in accordance with the media type selections over the first communication medium.

In one variant, the first communication medium comprises a packet switched network, and the second communication medium comprises, e.g., a non-packet switched network.

In another embodiment, the method comprises: causing control signals to be sent to at least one of the first and second users to enable respective media type selections; and transmitting via the processing machine and a packet-switched network a plurality of digital media packets corresponding to each of at least two different first user media types, the at least two different first user media types being selected based at least in part on the control signals. For at least one of the at least two different first user media types, the first processing machine further causes signals associated with at least a portion of the plurality of digital media packets to be delivered to at least the second user consistent with the second user media type selection.

In yet another embodiment, the communications network comprises a first processing machine that establishes communication between at least second and third processing machines, the second processing machine being in communication with the first processing machine via communications channels of a packet-switched network having indeterminate packet loss. The first processing machine being in signal communication with the third processing machine via at least a non-packet switched network, and the method comprises: causing signals to be sent to the second and third processing machines to enable media type selections; and transmitting via the first processing machine and the communications channels a plurality of digital media packets corresponding to each of at least two different media types selected via the second processing machine based at least in part on the signals. For at least one of the at least two different media types, the first processing machine further causes signals related to at least a portion of the transmitted digital media packets to be delivered to at least

the third processing machine consistent with the third processing machine's media type selection.

5. In accordance with a fifth aspect of the present invention, a method of communication is disclosed. In one embodiment, the method is adapted for use in an apparatus adapted to couple into communication a remote processing machine with a caller coupled via a telephone line, and comprises: negotiating with the remote processing machine a selection of at least one media type from a plurality of media types including audio, video and data, and to configure, according to the selection, the apparatus to process media data packets received from and to be transmitted to the remote processing machine over a packet switched network via one or more packet switched communication channels; and placing the caller into signal communication with the apparatus at least via the telephone line. In one variant, the one or more packet switched communication channels have an indeterminate packet loss, and the media type selection is of only audio. The negotiation comprises sending a first message and receiving a response message, and involves a message format that supports the description of the audio, video and data media types. The apparatus communicates information between the remote processing machine and the telephone line.

6. In accordance with a sixth aspect of the present invention, a method of communication over a network is disclosed. In one embodiment, the network comprises a processing machine that establishes communication between a first caller and a second caller, the first caller being coupled to the processing machine over a first communication medium, the processing machine being coupled to the second caller over a second communication medium, and the method comprises: invoking at least one connection routine at the processing machine to cause control signals to be sent to at least one of the first and second callers to enable media type selections, at least one of the media type selections including a selection of at least two different media types; and transmitting via the processing machine a plurality of digital media packets corresponding to each of the at least two different media types. For at least one of the at least two different media types, at least a portion of the plurality of corresponding digital media packets are transmitted to at least one of the first and second callers in accordance with the media type selections, over the first communication medium via one or more packet switched communication channels. The one or more packet switched communication channels include a single connection stream that includes packets of at least one media stream set up for each of the at least one media type by the first and second callers.

7. In accordance with a seventh aspect of the present invention, a method of transmitting data packets from a first processing machine to be delivered to one or more of a plurality of remote processing machines in data communication therewith, is disclosed. In one embodiment, the method also places a telephone subscriber into communication with the plurality of remote processing machines, and comprises: transmitting a plurality of media data packets for delivery to at least one of the plurality of remote processing machines over a packet switched network via one or more packet switched communication channels, wherein each of the media data packets has a plurality of data fields

associated therewith, at least one of the data fields comprising at least one destination address associated with a respective one of the plurality of remote processing machines; and communicating signals of at least one media type via a telephone network to couple the telephone subscriber into communication with the plurality of remote processing machines. A first number of the plurality of media data packets may be transmitted for delivery to a first subset of the plurality of remote processing machines while a second number of the plurality of media data packets may be transmitted for delivery to a second subset of the plurality of remote processing machines, the first and second subsets not being identical.

These and other aspects of the invention are now described in detail herein.--

2. On page 82, lines 3-20 of the specification as filed ("Abstract"), please amend the text as follows: